



Control Number: 50595



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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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Employee Training Report
Required by 16 Texas Admin. Code § 25.97(d)

PROJECT NO. 50595

AFFECTED ENTITY: Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

General Information

Pursuant to 16 Texas Admin. Code § 25.97(d)(2), not later than the 30th day after the date an affected entity finalizes a material change to a document or training program, the affected entity must submit an updated report. The first report must be submitted not later than May 1, 2020.

Instructions

Answer all questions, fill-in all blanks, and have the report notarized in the Affidavit.

Affidavit

A representative of the affected entity must swear to and affirm the truthfulness, correctness, and completeness of the information provided by attaching a signed and notarized copy of the Affidavit provided with this form.

Filing Instructions

Submit four copies (an original and three copies) of the completed form and signed and notarized Affidavit to:

Central Records Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Avenue
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326
Telephone: (512) 936-7180

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- 1. Provide a summary description of hazard recognition training documents you provide your employees related to overhead transmission and distribution facilities.**

Summary of Hazardous Recognition Training for Transmission Facilities

Training Objectives:

1. Define hazards associated with transmission lines.
2. Identify appropriate distance for cranes from power lines.
3. Identify required clearances for transmission line related to roads and buildings.
4. Define a danger tree.

Training Description:

PURA §38.102 requires electric utilities including electric cooperatives and municipally owned utilities to provide hazard recognition training related to overhead transmission and distribution facilities. For the purposes of this training, transmission facilities include those electric facilities operating above 60 kV. One of the challenges to recognizing hazards inherent to transmission facilities is the significant changes in conductor sag for transmission lines. The goal for this training is to educate employees to observe, recognize and report hazardous situations.

Course Outline:

1. Definition of a Hazard
2. Hazards to Report
 - a. Non-compliance with NESC
 - b. Failed System Components
 - c. Failure of Warning Lights/Marker Balls
3. Summary of Clearances for Transmission Facilities
4. Recognition of Changes in Conductor Sag for Long Spans
5. Activities near the Line
 - a. Grading
 - b. Crane Operation OSHA 1926.1408(a)
 - c. Scaffold Clearances OSHA 1926.451(f)
 - d. Construction of Adjacent Buildings/Signs
6. Right-of-way Issues
 - a. Danger Trees
 - b. Dead Trees
 - c. Erosion of the Right-of-Way
7. Priorities of Reported Issues
8. Record Keeping Requirements

2. Provide a summary description of training programs you provide your employees related to the National Electrical Safety Code for construction of electric transmission and distribution lines.

In accordance with the William Thomas Heath Power Line Safety Act, HB 4150, and PUCT Substantive Rule 25.97, Swisher Electric Cooperative is providing a summary description of training programs provided to employees related to overhead transmission and distribution lines. Among other things, this training includes hazard recognition, adherence to NESC guidelines for construction, operation and maintenance of transmission and distribution lines. Training also includes NESC Rule 232, clearance requirements over any of the 178 lakes listed in the Act. Included herein are summaries of the current training modules Swisher Electric Cooperative provides to employees.

- Summary of TEC Safety Meeting HB4150 Training (two- to four-hour course)

The training will include an overview of HB 4150 with an explanation of requirements for the utilities operating in Texas. It will also include hazard recognition training as it applies to the requirements of compliance with the National Electric Safety Code (NESC). This will include clearance requirements for lands, roadways, and waterways. The employee training will define to whom, when and how the bill applies. As well as explanation of guidelines, requirements, and deadlines for filing reports. A portion of the course will include hazard recognition and an explanation of clearance guideline requirements preparing employees to proactively recognize and report hazards and clearance related issues on their utilities' system.

- Summary of Transmission Webinar for PURA §38.102 (one-hour course to accompany TEC Safety Meeting)

PURA §38.102 requires electric utilities including electric cooperatives and municipally owned utilities to provide training to employees related to the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) for construction of electric transmission and distribution lines. This webinar discusses the requirements for transmission facilities which are defined as facilities operating above 60 kV. The webinar will not include discussions regarding distribution lines. This training will focus on transmission clearances, strength issues, and access of overhead transmission lines.

- Summary of Hazardous Recognition Training for Transmission Facilities (one-hour course to accompany TEC Safety Meeting)

PURA §38.102 requires electric utilities including electric cooperatives and municipally owned utilities to provide hazard recognition training related to overhead transmission and distribution facilities. For the purposes of this training, transmission facilities include those electric facilities operating above 60 kV. One of the challenges to recognizing hazards inherent to transmission facilities is the significant changes in conductor sag for transmission lines. The goal for this training is to educate employees to observe, recognize and report hazardous situations.

- Summary of Hazard Recognition (four-hour C•O•R•E course)

HB 4150 Section 38.102(a)(1) requires utilities to provide a summary of hazard recognition training documents for overhead transmission and distribution lines. Hazard recognition training focuses on equipping electric utility employees with the knowledge to recognize clearance hazards of overhead power lines.

- Summary of NESC Clearance Requirements (four-hour C•O•R•E course)

This course will educate all utility personnel whose positions require a working knowledge of the NESC rules, which can include engineers, line workers and staking technicians.

- Summary of Designing Transmission and Distribution Lines Crossing Lake (one-day C•O•R•E course)

This training reviews clearances as defined by Rule 232 of the NESC and compliance with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers easement requirements.

NESC Clearance Review of Existing Transmission Lines (one-day C•O•R•E course)

HB 4150 Section 38.102(2) requires utilities to submit a report on training related to the NESC for the "construction of transmission and distribution facilities." This training will concentrate on NESC Section 232-Vertical Clearances. Further, the training will provide the skill sets necessary to inspect transmission lines without creating a model of the line using LiDAR. The target audience for the class will be operations personnel and staking technicians.

Affected Entity: Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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AFFIDAVIT

I swear or affirm that I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this report or am relying on people with personal knowledge, that I am competent to testify to them, and that I have the authority to submit this report on behalf of the affected entity. I further swear or affirm that all statements made in this report are true, correct, and complete.


Signature

Andy Stewart
Printed Name

Safety Manager
Job Title

SWISHER ELECTRIC COOP, INC.
Name of Affected Entity

Sworn and subscribed before me this 24 day of April, 2020.
Month Year

Melissa Forbes

Notary Public in and For the State of TEXAS

My commission expires on 1/29/2024

